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News Release

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Leech Lake Reservation man is the first person charged in Minnesota under the Adam Walsh Act

A 48-year-old Leech Lake Indian Reservation man is the first Minnesota resident charged under the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006. Bradley Wilford Senogles was indicted yesterday in federal court with one count of failing to register as a sex offender.

Senogles's indictment alleges that from July 2007 to March 14, 2008, he did knowingly fail to update his sex offender registration when he relocated to the reservation.

The Act makes it a federal felony for convicted sex offenders to fail to register with their local authorities. It is named after Adam Walsh, the son of John Walsh, the host of the television program "America's Most Wanted." Adam Walsh was abducted from a shopping mall in 1981 and found murdered 16 days later. His killer has never been found.

According to a United States Marshals Service affidavit, Senogles was convicted in October 2001 of sexual abuse of a minor, and served 24 months in federal prison. On March 14, 2008, the Marshals Service checked for Senogles's name on the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) Predatory Offender Registry.

According to the BCA, Senogles had not returned his annual verification letter, as required by law. BCA records indicated that the verification letter was sent to Senogles's Minneapolis address, but was not returned nor had he registered at any other address.

The Marshals Service learned that Senogles was living in Cass Lake on the Leech Lake Reservation and was not registered as a sex offender there. Authorities determined that Senogles moved out of Minneapolis several months ago.

If convicted, Senogles faces a potential maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the U.S. Marshals Service and the BCA, and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kimberly A. Svendsen.

An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by the defendant. The defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.